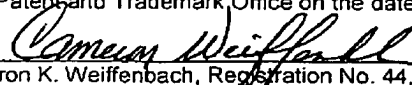


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Cameron K. Weiffenbach, Registration No. 44,488

Date: June 4, 2008

Docket No.: 052363-0030

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Katsumi OKAMURA, et al.

Confirmation No.: 6234

Application No.: 10/562,485

Group Art Unit: 1794

Filed: December 27, 2005

Examiner: Turner, Archene A.

For: SURFACE-COATED HIGH HARDNESS MATERIAL FOR TOOL

AMENDMENT and REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a response to the non-final Office Action dated March 4, 2008. The above-referenced patent application has been amended as set forth below.

Please cancel claims 2 and 3 without prejudice or disclaimer and amend claims 1 and 4-10 as set forth in the "Amendments to the Claims" on pages 2 and 3 of this response.

WDC99 1574891-1.052363.0030